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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/618,320	07/11/2003	Yasuhiko Takahashi	600630-7US (562399)	8239
570	7590	01/04/2006	EXAMINER	
AKIN GUMP STRAUSS HAUER & FELD L.L.P. ONE COMMERCE SQUARE 2005 MARKET STREET, SUITE 2200 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103			TURNER, SHARON L	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1649	

DATE MAILED: 01/04/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/618,320	TAKAHASHI ET AL.	
Examiner	Art Unit		
Sharon L. Turner	1649		

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 July 2003.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-54 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) Claim(s) 1-54 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: _____.

Election/Restriction

1. The preliminary amendment of 7-11-03 has been entered.
2. Claims 1-54 are pending
3. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-6, 21-22, in part drawn to polypeptides, classified for example in class 530, subclass 350.
 - II. Claims 7-17, 23-24, 44-45, 47-51, 54 in part drawn to a polynucleotide, vector and isolated host cell, classified for example in class 435, subclass 69.1.
 - III. Claims 7, 13, 15 in part drawn to a transformant (transgenic organism), classified for example in class 800, subclass 8.
 - IV. Claims 7, 13, 16 in part drawn to a method for producing a transformant (transgenic organism), classified for example in class 800, subclass 21.
 - V. Claims 18, 25-26 in part drawn to an antisense molecule, classified for example in class 536, subclass 24.5.
 - VI. Claim 19, 27-28 in part drawn to a ribozyme, classified for example in class 536, subclass 23.1.
 - VII. Claims 20, 29-30, 54 in part drawn to an antibody, classified for example in class 530, subclass 387.1.
 - VIII. Claim 31-32, 54 in part drawn to an oligonucleotide, classified for example in class 536, subclass 24.3.
 - IX. Claim 33 drawn to a method of screening not in contact with test substance, classified for example in class 435, subclass 7.1.

X. Claim 34 drawn to a method of screening with contact, classified for example in class 435, subclass 6.

XI. Claim 35 drawn to a method of screening with test and control, classified for example in class 435, subclass 325.

XII. Claim 36 drawn to a method of screening with test, classified for example in class 435, subclass 69.1.

XIII. Claim 37 drawn to a method of screening with receptor ligand, classified for example in class 435, subclass 252.1.

XIV. Claim 38 drawn to a method of screening with membrane, classified for example in class 435, subclass 91.4.

XV. Claim 39 drawn to a method of screening with contact, classified for example in class 435, subclass 5.

XVI. Claim 40 drawn to a method of screening with GTP binding, classified for example in class 436, subclass 500.

XVII. Claim 41-43 drawn in part to a substance, classified for example in class 435, subclass 6.

XVIII. Claim 46, 52 drawn in part to a GPCR ligand, classified for example in class 530, subclass 300.

XIX. Claim 49 drawn in part to a cleavable GTP analogue, classified for example in class 530, subclass 300.

XX. Claim 51 drawn in part to a non-cleavable GTP analogue, classified for example in class 530, subclass 300.

4. Furthermore, in addition to the election of one of the above VIII groups, further restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 as set forth below to delineate the molecular embodiments to which the claims will be restricted in accordance with the elected group:

A) A single designated nucleic acid composition selected from SEQ ID Nos: 2, 27-28.

B) A single polypeptide selected from SEQ ID NO:1, 25-26.

5. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

6. Although there are no provisions under the section for "Relationship of Inventions" in MPEP 806.05 for inventive groups that are directed to different products, restriction is deemed to be proper because the products indicated as A-B constitute patentably distinct inventions for the following reasons. Each of the polynucleotides and polypeptides has a unique structural feature which requires a unique search of the prior art. The inventions indicated as A-B differ in structure and function as they are composed of divergent nucleic and amino acids and are differentially able to hybridize, bind or mediate biological functions. A reference to one element would not constitute a reference to another. In addition, searching all of the molecules in a single patent application would provide an undue search burden on the examiner and the USPTO's resources because the indicated searches are not co-extensive.

7. Inventions I-III, V-VIII and XVII-XX are related as products. The products are distinct each from the other as the products are comprised of divergent structure, exhibit different effects and functions and are capable of different use, for example DNA, RNA,

peptide, antibody, cells, organisms, organic and inorganic compounds.

8. Inventions IV and IX-XVI are related as processes. The processes are distinct each from the other as the processes differ in reagents, steps, functions, outcomes and effects.

9. Inventions I-III, V-VIII, XVII-XX and IV and IX-XVI are related as products and processes of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP§806.05(h)). In the instant case the processes for using the products (DNA, RNA, antibodies, oligonucleotides, analogues, organaic and inorganic molecues, cells, organisms, ligands and peptides can be practiced with alternative molecules such as alternative nucleic acids or peptides and the products as claimed can be used alternatively in a the different methods recited or in methods of treatment, methods of making antibodies, methods of screening compounds, and methods for detecting compositions.

10. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

11. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for any Group is not required for any other Group, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

12. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have

acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

13. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143). In order to be fully responsive, Applicant is required to elect a single group from the designated groups and a single molecular embodiment for each of designated groups A and B to which the claims will be restricted, even though the requirement is traversed. Applicant is advised that neither I-XX nor A-B are species election requirements; rather each are restriction requirements. The subject matter for examination will be restricted to the extent of the subject matter of the elected groups. It is noted that while one of A-B may not be applicable to one of I-XX, applicant must elect one of each in order to be fully compliant.

14. The examiner has required restriction between product and process claims. Where applicant elects claims directed to the product, and a product claim is subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the allowable product claim will be rejoined in accordance with the provisions of MPEP§ 821.04. **Process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the patentable product will be entered as a matter of right if the amendment is presented prior to final rejection or allowance, whichever is earlier. Amendments submitted after final rejection are governed by 37 CFR 1.116; amendments submitted after allowance are governed by 37 CFR 1.312.**

In the event of rejoinder, the requirement for restriction between the product claims

and the rejoined process claims will be withdrawn, and the rejoined process claims will be fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104. Thus, to be allowable, the rejoined claims must meet all criteria for patentability including the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101, 102, 103, and 112. Until an elected product claim is found allowable, an otherwise proper restriction requirement between product claims and process claims may be maintained. Withdrawn process claims that are not commensurate in scope with an allowed product claim will not be rejoined. See “Guidance on Treatment of Product and Process Claims in light of *In re Ochiai*, *In re Brouwer* and 35 U.S.C. §103(b),” 1184 O.G. 86 (March 26, 1996). Additionally, in order to retain the right to rejoinder in accordance with the above policy, Applicant is advised that the process claims should be amended during prosecution either to maintain dependency on the product claims or to otherwise include the limitations of the product claims. **Failure to do so may result in a loss of the right to rejoinder.** Further, note that the prohibition against double patenting rejections of 35 U.S.C. 121 does not apply where the restriction requirement is withdrawn by the examiner before the patent issues. See MPEP §804.01.

15. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

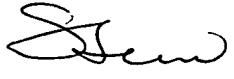
16. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this general application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Papers relating to this application may be submitted to Technology Center 1600, Group 1640 by facsimile transmission. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989). Should applicant wish to FAX a response, the current FAX number for Group 1600 is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sharon L. Turner, Ph.D. whose telephone number is (571) 272-0894. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Janet Andres can be reached at (571) 272-0867.

Sharon L. Turner, Ph.D.
December 28, 2005


SHARON TURNER, PH.D.
PATENT EXAMINER

12-28-05